

session, so as to permit the Oregon bill and all other bills which had passed or might pass to be sent to the President; and on that motion he demanded the previous question.

Mr. BAYLY moved that the House adjourn.

Mr. RHETT demanded the yeas and nays on the motion.

The SPEAKER decided that the motion to adjourn was not in order. The House then adjourned until 12 o'clock.

At 12 o'clock the House resumed its session. The SPEAKER read the constitution of the United States neither House, without the consent of the other, could adjourn for more than three days. If the motion to adjourn were received and agreed to, the House would stand adjourned until the first Monday in December. The motion was not, therefore, in order.

After some conversation of a private nature between Mr. BAYLY, Mr. RHETT, and the SPEAKER.

Mr. RHETT moved a call of the House, [great confusion,] and demanded tellers on the motion.

Tellers were refused, and the motion was rejected.

The demand for the previous question was seconded.

Mr. RHETT demanded the yeas and nays on the main question. Rejected.

Mr. CLARKE, of Kentucky, rose to a privileged question. The SPEAKER said there was no privileged question which would override the question pending.

The main question was then ordered, and the resolution was adopted.

Mr. McCLELLAND moved to reconsider the vote, and, at his instance, the motion was laid on the table.

Mr. J. R. INGERSOLL, from the committee of conference on the part of the House on the disagreement of the two Houses on the bill changing the time of holding the United States courts for the western district of Virginia, and for other purposes, made a report, which was read.

The question being on concurring in said report—

Mr. J. R. INGERSOLL moved the previous question.

Mr. JONES, of Tennessee, said he was a member of the committee of conference on this bill, and he was opposed to the report, and he protested against its adoption. He, therefore, moved to lay it on the table, which was agreed to.

The motion was lost, two-thirds not voting in the affirmative.

Mr. BOYD moved the usual resolution to appoint a committee of three members to wait on the President and to inform him that the House, having completed its business, was ready to adjourn sine die at 12 o'clock, if he had no communication to make to the House.

The resolution was agreed to, and Messrs. BOYD, VINTOS, and COLLAMER were appointed said committee.

Mr. HUNT moved a suspension of the rules to enable him to report, from the Committee on Commerce, the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Secretary of War be directed to inquire into the expediency of purchasing a title to suitable sites for marine hospitals at Buffalo, Oswego, Apalachicola, and at the Delaware Breakwater; and that he report the same, with plans and estimates for such hospitals, at the next session of Congress.

Mr. HUNT also asked leave to make a report from the Committee on Commerce, asking to be discharged from the consideration of certain papers.

[Objections and great confusion.]

Mr. COBB, of Georgia, objected, and gave notice that he should object to receiving any reports from any committee.

Mr. THOMPSON, of Mississippi, was understood to ask that the Committee on Indian Affairs be discharged from the further consideration of certain papers.

Mr. COBB, of Georgia, moved a resolution that the standing committees of the House be at liberty to return the papers submitted to them, and upon which they had not acted, to the Clerk, and be discharged from their further consideration. This, he said, would avoid the necessity for all these reports from committees.

Mr. ROCKWELL, of Connecticut, moved to suspend the rules for the reception of all reports from committees of Senate bills to which no objection was made.

Mr. COBB said it was too late for the House to act on any business. No good could result from the suspension of the rules.

Mr. ROCKWELL said there were one or two Senate bills which the Committee of Claims were ready to report, to which the House would agree; and he called the gentleman's attention to the fact that his motion was to suspend the rules for reports to which no objection was made.

The question was taken, and the motion of Mr. ROCKWELL was rejected.

Mr. KING, of Georgia, moved a suspension of the rules to enable him to offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That it shall be the duty of the Clerk of this House to remove the desks from this hall during the adjournment of Congress, the seats to remain as they are, unless it shall be ascertained that they may, with perfect convenience to the members, be placed in another position. He shall also cause a tribune, one step above the floor, to be erected in front of his desk, with a table in front, on which he shall constantly keep writing materials. He shall also cause two desks, one on each side of the tribune, to be erected, for the accommodation of the Reporters of the Intelligence and the Union.

The motion was lost, two-thirds not voting in the affirmative.

PAYMENTS TO GEN. CASS AND TAYLOR.

Mr. LINCOLN asked the attention of the House for a moment, for the purpose of saying that the Committee on the Expenditures of the War Department, to whom had been referred the receipts from the Treasury of General Cass and Taylor, had prepared a short report, the substance of which, which they recommended the printing of the message of the President and accompanying documents, together with certain documents which had heretofore been committed to that committee, on the subject of the accounts of Gen. Cass. If objections were made, he asked a suspension of the rules to enable him to move, in accordance with this report, the printing of the message and the said documents.

Mr. JONES, of Tennessee objected to the reception of the report.

Mr. ASHURN rose to a privileged question, and moved to reconsider the resolution adopted a few moments since, appointing a committee to wait on the President of the United States, and inform him that unless he had some communication to make to the two Houses, they would adjourn at 12 o'clock to day. He understood that a message had been received from the Senate informing the House that a body had occurred in the resolution suspending for to day the joint rule which forbids bills to be sent to the President. Therefore, there was no use for the resolution.

Mr. BOYD remarked he had no objection to the resolution being reconsidered.

The passage of the resolution was then reconsidered, and the resolution was rejected.

Mr. KING, of Georgia, moved to suspend the rules to enable him to offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That it shall be the duty of the Clerk of this House to cause a tribune, one step above the floor, to be erected in front of his desk, with a table in front, on which he shall constantly keep writing materials. He shall also cause two desks, one on each side of the tribune, to be erected, for the accommodation of the Reporters of the Intelligence and the Union.

The motion was lost, two-thirds not voting in the affirmative.

Mr. STROHM moved a suspension of the rules to enable him to make a report from the Committee on Public Expenditures. Lost—two-thirds not voting in the affirmative.

Mr. CONGER, from the Committee on Printing, reported the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Joint Committee on Printing be and they are hereby authorized to sit during the recess of Congress, in order to carry out the intention of the joint resolution directing the manner of printing the printing for the two Houses of Congress, approved August 3, 1846. Provided, That no pay be allowed for any thing beyond the actual necessary traveling expenses of said committee, in coming to and returning from the Capitol, and for the printing of the report of the committee, and the usual per diem while thus engaged.

[Great disorder and excitement.]

Mr. COBB, of Georgia, made the point of order that the report was not in order, the privilege given to the Committee on Printing to report at any time being confined to the ordinary routine of their duties, the question of the propriety of printing documents, their nature and character, &c. did not come within the scope of the resolution, and that the body should submit to the committee, and no body else, to take charge of this whole matter, to see that the work was done in the right manner, and that the materials were of the requisite quality.

Mr. McLANE objected.

Mr. CONGER demanded the previous question.

The previous question was ordered, and the main question ordered, and the adoption of the resolution.

It was now half past 11 o'clock.

Mr. BURT moved to lay the resolution on the table, and on that motion he demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered, and, being taken, resulted: Yeas 77, nays 77.

As the House refused to lay the resolution on the table, the question recurred on the yeas and nays on the resolution. [It now wanted twelve minutes to twelve o'clock.]

Mr. BURT and other gentlemen demanded he yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER stated that another call of the yeas and nays would not exhaust all the time which was left. If the yeas and nays were ordered it would be necessary to arrest the call and adjourn the House at 12 o'clock.

There was now an important message from the President of the United States to present if it was the wish of the House.

[Cries of "Let us have it; read it!"]

The SPEAKER said he could not lay it before the House while this question was pending, unless by the unanimous consent of the House. Objections were made—

Mr. COBB, of Georgia, renewed the call for the yeas and nays on the adoption of the resolution of Mr. CONGER; which were ordered.

Mr. HUNT moved to reconsider the vote by which the yeas and nays had been ordered. He appealed to gentlemen not to persist in killing the little time that remained.

Mr. JONES, of Tennessee, demanded the yeas and nays on the motion to reconsider.

The yeas and nays were refused, and the motion to reconsider the demand for the yeas and nays was agreed to.

The question recurred on the demand for the yeas and nays, they were again ordered, and at nine minutes to 12 o'clock the Clerk began to call the roll.

The intense excitement, hurry, and confusion attendant upon the closing hours of the session, which had prevailed to some extent during the entire morning, here seemed wrought up to the highest pitch, and at the call by the Clerk of each member, the hands of the clock—now rapidly moving forward and just upon the hour of twelve—were intensely watched. During the last half hour the Speaker had constantly been engaged in signing bills, and numerous messages had been received from the President of the United States and from the Senate.

The call having proceeded to the name of Mr. COBB, of Georgia—

Mr. STANTON interposed and appealed to the unanimous consent of the House to take up the President's message and order its printing.

The SPEAKER. By unanimous consent the Chair will now lay before the House a message from the President of the United States.

Objections were made.

The SPEAKER (in reply to an inquiry by Mr. STANTON) said that he was not authorized to lay before the House the President's message until the 1st of December next.

The objections being persisted in—

At six minutes to 12 the Clerk resumed the call of the roll. At two minutes to 12 Mr. STANTON made another unsuccessful appeal to have the message laid before the House.

The SPEAKER proceeded with the call, and having named the members of the House, he called the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER's hammer fell, and

The SPEAKER rose and said that the Senate and House of Representatives, by joint resolution, having directed the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives to adjourn their respective Houses on the 14th day of August, at 12 o'clock M., and that the House stands adjourned sine die.

[Having had the good fortune to procure a copy of the President's Message, referred to in the foregoing proceedings, we give it a place below.]

WASHINGTON, AUGUST 14, 1848.

To the House of Representatives of the United States of America.

When the President has given his official sanction to a bill which has passed Congress, usage requires that he shall notify the House in which it originated of that fact. The mode of giving this notification has been by an oral message, delivered by his private Secretary.

Having this day approved and signed an act entitled "An act to establish the Territorial Government of Oregon," I act to establish the Territorial Government of Oregon, to communicate the fact in a more solemn form. The deeply interesting and protracted discussions which have taken place in both Houses of Congress, and the absorbing interest which the subject has excited throughout the country, justify, in my judgment, this departure from the form of notice observed in other cases. In this communication with a co-equal branch of the Government, made public, and subject to the scrutiny of the people, I shall frankly and without reserve express the reasons which have constrained me not to withhold my signature from the bill to establish a government over Oregon, even though the two Territories of New Mexico and California are to be left for the present without governments. None doubt that it is proper to establish a government in Oregon. Indeed, it has been long delayed. The people of Oregon have petitioned the Congress to this effect. The petitions of the people of that distant region have been presented to the Government, and ought not to be disregarded. To give to them a regularly organized government and the protection of our laws, which as citizens of the United States they claim, is a high duty on our part, and one which we are bound to perform unless there be controlling reasons to prevent it.

In the progress of the consideration of questions of such transcendent importance occasionally arise as to cast in the shade all those of a mere party character. But one such question can now be agitated in this country; and this may endanger our glorious Union, the source of our greatness and all our political blessings. This question is slavery. With the slaveholding States this does not embrace merely the rights of property, but the right of man to be sold, and it is a question which involves the domestic peace and security of every family.

The fathers of the constitution—the wise and patriotic men who laid the foundation of our institutions—foreseeing the danger from this quarter, acted in a spirit of compromise and mutual concession on this dangerous and delicate subject, and their wisdom ought to be the guide of the States. The question of domestic slavery within their respective limits, they provided that slaves who might escape into other States not recognizing the institution of slavery shall "be delivered up on the claim of the party to whom such service or labor may be due."

Upon this foundation the matter rested until the Missouri question arose.

In December, 1819, application was made to Congress by the people of the Missouri Territory for admission into the Union as a State. The discussion upon the subject in Congress involved the question of slavery, and was prosecuted with such violence as to produce excitement alarming to every patriot in the Union. But the good genius of conciliation which presided at the birth of our institutions finally prevailed, and the Missouri compromise was adopted. The joint resolution of the act of Congress of the 6th of March, 1820, "to authorize the people of the Missouri Territory to form a Constitution and State Government," &c. provides: "That in all that territory ceded by France to the United States, under the name of Louisiana, which lies north of thirty-six degrees and thirty minutes north latitude, not included within the limits of the State of Missouri, there shall be slavery and involuntary servitude, otherwise than the punishment of crimes, whereof the parties shall have been duly convicted, shall be and is hereby forever prohibited: Provided, always, That any person escaping into the same from from labor or service is lawfully claimed in any State or Territory of the United States, such fugitive may be lawfully reclaimed and conveyed to the person claiming his or her labor or service, and the aid of the laws of the United States shall be given to such claimant."

This compromise had the effect of calming the troubled waters, and restoring peace and good will throughout the States of the Union.

The Missouri question had excited intense agitation of the public mind, and threatened to divide the country into geographical parties, alienating the feelings of attachment which each portion of our Union should bear to every other. The compromise allayed the excitement, and restored the popular feeling of confidence and fraternal feelings. Its authors were hailed as public benefactors.

I do not doubt that a similar adjustment of the questions which now agitate the public mind would produce the same happy results. If the legislation of Congress on the subject of the other Territories shall not be adopted in a spirit of conciliation and compromise, it is impossible that the country shall be settled, or that the most disastrous consequences shall fail to ensue.

When Texas was admitted into the Union, the same spirit of compromise which guided our predecessors in the admission of Missouri, a quarter of a century before, prevailed without any serious opposition. The joint resolution for annexing Texas to the United States, approved July 4, 1846, provides that "States may be formed out of that portion of said territory lying south of thirty-six degrees thirty minutes north latitude, commonly known as the Missouri compromise line, shall be admitted into the Union with or without slavery, as the people of each State asking admission may desire; and in such State or States shall be formed out of said territory not included within the Missouri compromise line, there shall be slavery and involuntary servitude (except for crime) shall be prohibited."

The territory of Oregon lies far north of thirty-six degrees thirty minutes, the Missouri and Texas compromise line. Its southern boundary is the parallel of 42°, leaving the intermediate distance to be three hundred and thirty geographical miles.

It is because the provisions of this bill are not inconsistent with the terms of the Missouri compromise, if extended from the Rio Grande to the Pacific ocean, that I have not felt at liberty to withhold my sanction. Had it embraced territories south of that compromise, the question presented for my consideration would have been of a far different character, and my action upon it must have corresponded with my conviction.

Ought we now to disturb the Missouri and Texas compromises? Ought we, at this late day, in attempting to annul what has been so long established and acquiesced in, to excite sectional divisions and jealousies; to alienate the people of different portions of the Union from each other, and to endanger the existence of the Union itself?

From the adoption of the Federal Constitution, during a period of sixty years, our progress as a nation has been without intermission in the annals of history. Under the protection of a bountiful Providence, we have advanced with giant strides in the career of wealth and prosperity. We have enjoyed the blessings of freedom to a greater extent than any other people, ancient or modern, under a Government which has preserved order and secured to every citizen the rights of life, liberty, and property. We have secured a people for imitation to the whole world. The friends of freedom in every clime point with admiration to our institutions. Shall we, then, at the moment when the people of Europe are devoting all their energies in the attempt to assimilate their institutions to our own, peril all our blessings by despising the lessons of experience and refusing to tread in the footsteps of our fathers have trodden? And for what cause would we endanger our glorious Union? The Missouri compromise contains a prohibition of slavery throughout all that vast region extending twelve and a half degrees along the Pacific, from the parallel thirty-six degrees thirty minutes to that of forty-nine degrees, and east from that ocean to and beyond the summit of the Rocky Mountains. Why, then, should our institutions be endangered because it is proposed to submit to the people of the remainder of our newly-acquired territory, lying south of thirty-six degrees thirty minutes, embracing less than four degrees of latitude, the question whether, in the language of the Texas compromise, they "shall be admitted (as a State) into the Union with or without slavery." Is this a question to be pushed to such extremes by excited passions, on the one side or the other, in regard to our newly-acquired distant possessions on the Pacific, as to endanger the Union of thirty glorious States which constitute our confederacy? I have as abiding confidence that the sober reflection and sound patriotism of the people of all the States will bring them to the conclusion that the dictate of wisdom is to follow the example of those who have gone before us, and settle this dangerous question on the Missouri compromise, or some other equitable compromise which would respect the rights of all, and prove satisfactory to the different portions of the Union.

Holding as a sacred trust the Executive authority for the whole Union, and bound to guard the rights of all, I should consider it my duty to submit to the people of my country the Texas compromise, the "shall be admitted (as a State) into the Union with or without slavery," which would conflict with this important object.

I cannot more appropriately close this message than by quoting from the farewell address of the Father of his Country. His warning voice can never be heard in vain by the American people. If the spirit of prophecy had distinctly presented to his view, more than a century ago, the present day, the Texas compromise, the "shall be admitted (as a State) into the Union with or without slavery," which would conflict with this important object.

"The unity of government which constitutes you one people is also now dear to you. It is justly so; for it is a main pillar in the edifice of your real independence, the support of your tranquility at home, your peace abroad, your safety, your prosperity, of that very liberty which you so highly prize. But, as in the early stages of your government, you have been divided into different parties, many pains will be taken, many artifices employed, to weaken in your minds the conviction of this truth—as this is the point in your political fortress against which the batteries of internal and external enemies will be most constantly and actively (though often covertly and insidiously) directed—it is of infinite moment that you should understand and fully comprehend the unity of national union to your collective and individual happiness; that you should cherish a cordial, habitual, and immovable attachment to it; accustoming yourselves to think and to speak of it as a palladium of your political safety and prosperity; watching for its preservation with jealous anxiety; discountenancing whatever may suggest even a suspicion that it can in any event be abandoned, and indignantly frowning upon the first dawning of every attempt to alienate any portion of our country from the rest, or to enfeeble the sacred ties which now link together the various parts."

"For this we have every inducement of sympathy and interest. Citizens by birth or choice of a common country, that country has a right to concentrate your affections. The name of AMERICAN, which belongs to you in your native soil, is exalted the just pride of patriotism more than any appellation derived from local discriminations. With slight shades of difference, you have the same religion, manners, habits, and political principles. You have in a common cause fought and triumphed together. The independence and liberty you possess are the work of joint councils and joint efforts, of common dangers, sufferings, and success. With such powerful and obvious motives unifying your affections, will such persons as still cling to their sectional attachments have demonstrated its impracticability, there will always be reason to distrust the patriotism of those who in any quarter may endeavor to weaken its bonds."

"In contemplating the causes which may disturb our Union, it occurs as matter of serious concern that any ground should be given to the hostile parties in the distribution of geographical discriminations, Northern and Southern, Atlantic and Western, whence designing men may endeavor to excite a belief that there is a real difference of local interests and views. One of the expedients of party to acquire influence within particular districts is to misrepresent the opinions and aims of other districts. You cannot shield yourselves too much against the jealous and envenomed spirit of party government, which breathes only destruction. They tend to render alien to each other those who ought to be bound together by fraternal affection."

JAMES K. POLK.

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JAMES K. POLK.

an act for the relief of the bona fide settlers under the acts for the armed occupation and settlement of a part of the Territory of Florida.

An act to authorize the issuing of a register to the brig Palmetto.

An act for the relief of the Society for the Reformation of Juvenile Delinquents in the City of New York.

An act to change the location of the site of a quarter-section of public lands for the county site of Hillsborough county, State of Florida.

An act for the relief of Jose Argote Villalobos, married Jose, Françoise Felix, Marquis de Foncaux, or their heirs or legal representatives.

An act respecting certain surveys in the State of Florida.

An act for the relief of the Central Railroad and Banking Company of Georgia.

An act extending privileges to American vessels engaged in a certain mentioned trade, and for other purposes.

An act renewing certain naval pensions, and extending the benefits of existing laws respecting naval pensions to engineers, firemen, and coal-bearers in the navy, and to their widows.

An act concerning Spanish steam vessels.

An act to revive an act authorizing certain soldiers in the late war with Great Britain to surrender the bounty lands drawn by them, and to locate others in lieu thereof.

An act to make Bangor a port of entry for ships or vessels coming from and beyond the Cape of Good Hope.

An act to extend an act entitled "An act providing for the adjustment of all suspended pre-emption land claims in the several States and Territories," approved August 3, 1846.

An act for the payment of liquidated claims against Mexico.

An act to change the time of holding the circuit and district courts in the State of Kentucky.

An act to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to make a compromise and settlement with the securities of Francis D. Newcomb, late Surveyor General of the State of Louisiana.

An act to change the time of holding the terms of the circuit court of the United States in the district of Maine.

An act to carry into effect certain provisions in the treaties between the United States and China and the Ottoman Porte, giving judicial powers to ministers and consuls of the United States in those countries.

An act for the relief of David N. Smith.

An act for the relief of Gustavus Dorr.

An act for the relief of Charity Herrington.

An act concerning the pay department of the army.

An act giving effect to certain treaty stipulations between the United States and the Government of Mexico for the apprehension and delivery up of certain offenders.

An act in relation to the terms of the circuit and district courts of the United States in and for the district of New Jersey.

An act making appropriations for light-houses, light-boats, buoys, &c., and providing for the erection and establishment of the same.

An act authorizing the payment of a sum of money to Robert Purkin.

An act for the relief of Millidge Galphin, executor of the last will and testament of George Galphin, deceased.

An act for the relief of Elizabeth Pistole, widow of Chas. Pistole, deceased.

An act for the relief of Jesse Turner.

An act granting a pension to Abigail Garland, widow of Jacob Garland, deceased.

An act for the relief of puer Benj. J. Caboon.

An act for the relief of Messrs. Cook, Anthony, Mahony and others.

An act for the relief of Anna J. Hassler.

An act for the relief of Welcome Parmenter.

An act for the relief of David Currier.

An act for the relief of Benjamin Adams and Company, and others.

An act granting a pension to John Clark.

An act for the payment of Charles Richmond.

An act for the relief of Charles M. Gibson.

An act for the relief of J. A. Waterston.

An act for the relief of Mary Taylor.

An act for the relief of David Wilkinson.

An act for the payment of the fourth regiment in the second brigade of the third division of the Vermont militia for their services at the battle of Plattsburg.

An act for the relief of Samuel Grice.

An act for the relief of the legal representatives of Thomas J. O'Neil, deceased.

An act to compensate K. M. Johnson for the erection of certain buildings for the use of the Choctaw academy.

An act for the relief of John Lorimer Graham, late postmaster in the city of New York.

An act for the relief of Wm. B. Stokes.

An act for the relief of the widows and orphans of the officers, seamen, and marines of the brig of war Somers.

An act for the relief of William Somers.

An act for the relief of George V. Mitchell.

An act for the relief of James M. Scantland.

BILLS WHICH ORIGINATED IN THE HOUSE.

An act to annex that part of the State of Indiana bordering on Lake Michigan to the Chicago collection district.

An act for dividing the State of Georgia into two judicial districts, and organizing and establishing an additional district court of the United States with circuit court powers and jurisdiction.

An act for the relief of B. O. Taylor.

An act for the relief of William Hogan, administrator of Michael Hogan, deceased.

An act for the relief of Richard Reynolds.

An act for the relief of William Pittman.

An act to establish certain post routes.

An act making appropriations for the support of the army for the year ending 30th June, 1849.

An act in relation to military land warrants.

An act for the relief of William Triplett.

An act for the relief of Frederic Durbin.

An act for the relief of John P. B. Gratio and the legal representatives of Henry Gratio.

An act to establish the Territorial Government of Oregon.

An act for the relief of Phineas Capet, legal administrator of John Cox, deceased, of Boston.

An act for the relief of Mary Brown, widow of Jacob Brown.

An act making an appropriation to supply in part a deficiency in the appropriations for subsistence in kind of the army and volunteers during the year ending the 30th June, 1848.

An act relating to the collection district of New Orleans, and for other purposes.

An act for the relief of Wm. Culver.

An act for the relief of the legal representatives of James Brown, deceased.

An act authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to grant a register to the barque Sarah and Eliza.

An act making further provision for surviving widows of soldiers of the Revolution.

An act for the benefit of Mrs. Harriet Barney.

An act for the relief of E. G. Smith.

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An act for the relief of B. St. Vrain & Co.

An act for the relief of J. Throckmorton.

An act for the relief of John Anderson.

An act for the relief of Abner Allen.

An act for the relief of the legal heirs of John Snyder, deceased.

An act for the relief of Thomas Scott, Register of the Land Office at Chillicothe, Ohio, for services connected with the duties of his office.

An act for the relief of Barclay & Livingston, and Smith, Thurgood & Company.

An act for the relief of Amy Judd.

An act giving further time for satisfying claims for bounty lands in the State of Georgia.

An act for the relief of the heirs of Matthew Stewart.

An act for the relief of Wm. Ralston.

An act for the relief of Joseph and Lindley Ward.

An act for the relief of John Mitchell.

An act for the relief of Silas Waterman.

An act to extend the time for locating Virginia military land warrants, and returning surveys thereon to the General Land Office.

[An act to amend an act entitled "An act to re-organize the General Land Office," approved July 4, 1836.

An act for the relief of Bennett M. Dell.

An act for the relief of John Manley.

An act for the relief of Sarah Stokes, widow of John Stokes.

An act to authorize a loan not to exceed the sum of sixteen millions of dollars.

An act for the relief of the Red River Railroad Company.

An act making appropriations for the support of the Military Academy for the year ending the 30th June, 1849.

An act making appropriations for the payment of Revolutionary and other pensions of the United States for the year ending the 30th June, 1849.

An act for the relief of Stalker & Hill.

An act to re-establish the collection district of Brunswick, in the State of Georgia.

An act for the benefit of Benjamin White.

An act for the relief of Joseph Perry, a Choctaw Indian, or his assigns.

An act for the relief of Jonathan Moore, of the State of Massachusetts.

An act for the relief of Robert Ellis, of the State of Michigan.

An act for the relief of Catharine Fulton, of Washington county, Pennsylvania.

An act to supply deficiencies in the appropriations for the service of the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1848.

An act for the relief of the heirs of the late John C. Calhoun, and for the payment of the contingent expenses of the Indian department and for fulfilling treaty stipulations with the various Indian tribes for the year ending June 30th, 1849, and for other purposes.

An act to confirm the boundary line between Missouri and Arkansas.

An act authorizing a term of the United States Circuit and District Courts at Chicago, Illinois.

An act making appropriations for certain fortifications of the United States for the year ending the 30th June, 1849.

An act for the relief of Elijah H. Willis.

An act to authorize the issue of a register to the barque Wilhamet.

An act to change the location of certain light-houses and buoys.

An act to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to license yachts, and for other purposes.

An act in explanation of an act entitled "An act to approve the proceeds of the public lands and to grant pre-emption rights."

An act to amend the act to provide for the transportation of the mail between the United States and foreign countries, and for other purposes.

An act to amend an act entitled "An act in amendment of the acts respecting the judicial system of the United States."

An act for the relief of the legal representatives of Wm. McKenize, late a seaman on board the United States ship Vincennes.

An act for the relief of the heirs and widow of François Gramillon.

An act for the relief of Jonathan Fitzwater.

An act for the relief of Samuel Cony.

An act for the relief of Wm. P. Brady.

An act for the relief of Wm. T. Holland.

An act making appropriations for the naval service for the year ending the 30th June, 1849.

An act granting the franking privilege to Louisa Catharine Adams.

An act to change the name of the steamboat Charles Downing to the Calhoun.

An act to amend an act approved the 24th of May, 1824, entitled "An act supplementary to an act approved on the 3d day of March, 1819, entitled 'An act providing for the correction of errors in making entries of land at the land offices.'"

An act for the relief of Charles Cappel.

An act to provide for the ventilation of passenger vessels, and for other purposes.

An act making appropriations for the civil and diplomatic expenses of Government for the year ending the 30th day of June, 1849, and for other purposes.

An act for the relief of Edna Hickman, wife of Alexander D. Peck.

An act to change the name of Photius Kavaleas to Photius Fikis.

An act to incorporate the Washington Gaslight Company.

An act supplemental to "An act to confirm the survey and location of claims for lands in the State of Mississippi, east of the Pearl river and south of the thirty-first degree of north latitude," approved March 3, 1845.

An act to change the place of holding the District Court of the United States for the middle district of Alabama, and for other purposes.

An act to attach a portion of the northwestern land district in Louisiana to the district north of Red river, Louisiana.

An act for the relief of Francis M. Holton.

An act to make Ship Island, in the collection district of Pearl river, a port of delivery, and to authorize the appointment of a deputy collector for said port.

An act making appropriations for the service of the Post Office Department for the year ending the 30th June, 1849.

An act for the admission of the State of Wisconsin into the Union.

An act for the relief of those pre-emption claimants upon the Miami lands, in Indiana, who, by their services in the Mexican war, are entitled to bounty lands.

An act to refuse a pension remitted by the Secretary of the Treasury to John Hardop.

An act in addition to an act therein mentioned, [relating to the Wabash and Erie Canal lands].

An act to continue, alter, and amend the charter of the city of Washington.

An act to amend the act entitled "An act supplemental to an act entitled 'An act providing for the prosecution of the existing war between the United States and the republic of Mexico,' and for other purposes."

An act for the relief of Catharine Hoffman.

An act to refund money for expenses incurred, subsistence or transportation furnished for the use of volunteers, during the present war, before being mustered and received into the service of the United States.

An act to regulate the exchange of certain documents and other public acts of Congress.

An act for the relief of certain Tennessee volunteers.

An act to annex the town of Essex, in the State of Massachusetts, to the collection district of Gloucester.

An act to authorize the issuing of a register to the brig Encarnacion.

An act to amend the act entitled "An act to appropriate the proceeds of the sales of the public lands, and to grant pre-emption rights," approved September 4, 1841.

An act giving the consent of the Government of the United States to the State of Texas to extend her eastern boundary so as to include within her limits one-half of Sabine pass, Sabine lake, and Sabine river, as far north as the 32d degree of north latitude.

An act to prevent the importation of adulterated and spurious drugs and medicines.

An act to authorize the issuing a register to the schooner James.

An act concerning the taking of official oaths in the District of Columbia.

An act to surrender to the State of Indiana the Cumberland road in said State.

An act for the relief of certain surviving widows of officers and soldiers of the Revolutionary army.

An act to authorize the issuing a register to the barque Mary Theresa.

An act to authorize the State of Alabama to apply certain lands heretofore granted to that State for internal improvements, for the use of schools, in the valueless 16th sections in said State.

JOINT RESOLUTIONS.

Joint resolution extending the time for the erection of certain light-houses.

Joint resolution expressive of the thanks of Congress to Major General Winfield Scott, and the troops under his command, for their distinguished gallantry and good conduct in the campaign of 1847.

Joint resolution providing for payment of the regiment of Texas mounted troops, called into the service of the United States under the requisition of Colonel Curtis, in the year 1847, and for other purposes.

Joint resolution relative to evidence in applications for pensions.

Joint resolution in relation to the transportation and discharge of the military forces of the United States at the close of the war with Mexico.

Joint resolution disposing of two brass field-pieces captured at the battle of Bennington, in 1777.

Joint resolution to change the location of a lighthouse on Lake Superior, in the State of Michigan.

Joint resolution relinquishing to the State of Missouri certain trophies of Doniphan's victorious expedition.

Joint resolution concerning certain portions of the marine and ordnance corps.

Joint resolution of thanks to the officers, sailors, and marines of the United States navy.

Joint resolution authorizing the Secretary of the State to furnish the Clerk of the several District and Circuit Courts of the United States with copies of Little and Brown's edition of the laws of the United States.

Resolution tendering the congratulations of the Americans to the French people.

Resolution to sanction an agreement made between the Wabash and Erie Canal Company, for the purchase of certain lands by the former of the latter tribe of Indians.

Resolution authorizing the presentation to the Government of France of a series of the standard weights and measures of the United States, and for other purposes.

Resolution to explain an act passed 24th June, 1848, entitled "An act for the relief of W. B. Slaughter, late Secretary of the Territory of Wisconsin."

Resolution in relation to the naval pension of John McGarr.

Resolution authorizing the submission of certain claims to arbitration.

Resolution authorizing the proper accounting officers of the Treasury to make a just and fair settlement of the claims of the Cherokee nation of Indians against the principles established by the treaty of August 7, 1846.

Resolution concerning the distribution of the statutes at large.

Resolution for the speedy payment of the three months' extra pay to the officers, non-commissioned officers, musicians and privates who have served in the late war with Mexico, allowed by the act of July 19, 1848.

Resolution granting to the Jackson Monument Committee certain sums of money captured by General Andrew Jackson, and for other purposes.

Resolution in favor of David Shaw and Solomon T. Corser.

Resolution authorizing the erection on the public grounds in the city of Washington of a monument to George Washington.

Resolution for the relief of Betsey McIntosh.

Resolution for the relief of H. B. Gaither.

Resolution respecting contracts for hemp for the use of the American navy.

INTERESTING.—A few days ago, in New Orleans, one Sherman met an individual named Baron, and, after a good deal of confidential talking and talking, and after a good deal of confidential talking and talking, he proposed that he would join him to go to a house in the city at twelve o'clock the next morning. Baron apparently consented and asked for particulars, when he ascertained that the store to be broken open was his own place of business. He waited patiently at the hour appointed, caught the burglar, and sent him to prison.

THE END OF THE SESSION.

The two Houses of Congress on Monday terminated their very long and tedious, and rather unprofitable session, at noon, according to the joint resolution fixing upon that time for the adjournment.

A great deal of business—more even than usual—has been left in an unfinished state. Yet all the Annual Bills, and the Oregon Government Bill, have, with other important bills, become laws, and the machine of Government will continue to work on as usual, until the Senate and House of Representatives come together again on the first Monday in December next.

In the preceding columns our readers will find a List of the Acts that have passed at the session just closed. It is hoped to be correct. Great pains have been taken to make it so, and we have some confidence that they have not been taken without success.

UNITED STATES CRIMINAL COURT, D. C.

Judge CRAWFORD, presiding. Ex parte THOMAS HART BENTON.

On Wednesday morning the Hon. THOMAS H. BENTON, U. States Senator, entered the Criminal Court, in custody of Deputy Marshal Handy, and in company with W. C. JONES, Esq., and the Hon. JAMES B. BOWLIN, a Representative in Congress from Missouri, his counsel, and applied for and obtained a writ of habeas corpus, under the following circumstances:

On Monday last the honorable gentleman was arrested by virtue of a warrant issued by Justice MARSHALL, on the oath and complaint of Mr. GEORGE B. WALLIS, a Reporter for the New York Herald, charged with being about to commit a breach of the peace by fighting a duel with the Hon. A. P. BUTLER, United States Senator from South Carolina. The case was heard before the Justice on Tuesday, and again on Wednesday morning, when the defendant was ordered to enter into recognizances to keep the peace, which he peremptorily refused to do, and was thereupon committed to the custody of the Marshal of the District of Columbia. The officer to whose care the honorable Senator was entrusted for safe conveyance to a proper place of security, however, allowed Col. BENTON to make a personal application for a writ of habeas corpus to Judge CRAWFORD, who was then sitting to try the long-protracted case of the slave stealers of the Pearl. The writ was issued accordingly, and one o'clock was fixed to hear the evidence. Col. BENTON being permitted to return to his home on his parole, on a representation to the Court that Mrs. BENTON was severely indisposed.

At the time appointed the Marshal of the District, General WALLACE, made his return to the writ, bringing up the defendant, and the Court proceeded to examine witnesses.

Mr. WALLIS, the complainant, described the scene in the Senate Chamber at a late hour on Saturday night last, to which the newspaper press has given publicity, and stated the substance of rumors that a challenge had been conveyed to Col. BENTON by a friend of Mr. BUTLER, and the general belief that a hostile meeting was about to take place. Another witness—Mr. H. M. PAVY—deposed that he had heard the Hon. Mr. HANSEN, of the United States Senate, remark, "Well, old Bullion is quick in fixing the time: he was only challenged this morning, and I have heard the time already." But he had no personal knowledge of the affair, and consequently was not very hearsay testimony.

The Hon. WILLIAM P. MANGUM, United States Senator from North Carolina, and the Hon. H. S. FOOT, United States Senator from Mississippi, who were reported to be cognizant of the affair as the friends of Mr. BUTLER, were sought for to give testimony, but the officer reported that they were not *en seintus*.

DANIEL RATCLIFFE, Esq., who appeared as the *locum tenens* of P. B. KEY, Esq., the District Attorney, (who had been compelled to retire in consequence of a painful indisposition,) desired the case to be continued, to afford an opportunity to bring up these witnesses, which was resisted by the counsel for the defendant. Mr. BOWLIN suggested that the Court would not continue a case for the purpose of bringing up witnesses who could not give testimony without implicating themselves, and who therefore might refuse to testify; and then proposed to call witnesses to prove that Col. BENTON was a law-abiding, peaceable man, and a good citizen. Testimony was taken on that point, and the case was further postponed to 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon.

At half-past 3 o'clock Mr. RATCLIFFE announced that he was unable to produce Mr. MANGUM and Mr. FOOT. The latter gentleman, it was reported, had "gone to the Springs," but of Mr. MANGUM no intelligence could be obtained. Mr. WALLIS was again briefly cross